

Texas Wesleyan Hoop Scoop

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REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

A great 8 years at Texas Wesleyan University

Terry D. Waldrop

Head Basketball Coach

It is hard to think that I am getting ready for my 9th season at Texas Wesleyan University. I am still so very grateful to Dr. Skip Applin and the search committee headed by Russ Chappell who selected me to guide the program back in 1999. The very first team will always hold a very special place in my heart as we all experienced the maiden voyage into the NCAA Division II competition together and with a unbelievably competitive spirit and closeness led by All Americans Todd Chappell, Robert Allen and Brian Fulton the 99-00 Rams put together a 15 win season, which was the biggest single turnaround in the country in D2 that season. During the next couple seasons we changed affiliations several times, going from NCAA II, NCAA III, and a one year affiliation with the USCAA and then rejoining the NAIA in the fall of 2002. Each of those transition teams did an unbelievable job being able to stay focused during all of the uncertainty. I will always be very grateful to them for their hard

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CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER

All 5 starters from 2006 National Title team graduate !

Greater success in the classroom

When National Tournament MVP Evan Patterson walked across the stage to join former teammates Ben Hunt and Nino Etienne on the graduation stage in May 2007 another milestone had been achieved for this team of over-achievers. They joined fellow teammates Scott Reasoner and Brad Schilder who had earned their diplomas in 2006 and made it a clean sweep of all starters on the title team receiving TWU diplomas !! .



.Also on the graduation stage this past may was C.J. Higginbotham; CJ had the distinction of being selected to the All American team this past season based on his national collegiate leading 53% from the three point line average. This shattered the record books at Texas Wesleyan and in addition CJ was a 3 time Academic All American as well. Another bright spot is former All American guard Khayri McKinney is currently in school and finishing up on his degree as well. Congratulations to all these fine young men and their excellent work both on and off the court. You certainly have left a legacy of excellence for us all to learn from. 

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work.

An integral part of our success has been Brennen Shingleton. His passion and enthusiasm has not made such an impact on both me and all of these young men and them nor would I have had nearly the amount of shared success we have all achieved without his irreplaceable presence. I also owe such a debt of gratitude to my wife and 3 children without whom I could never do this job To all of the young men that have played here for most of the last decade, to Brennen Shingleton and all of our supporters including Denelle Rodriguez, Melanie Ford, President Jeffcoat , Bill Bleibdrey, Pati Alexander, and all the administration, Cary Poole, Peter Phaiyah, Kevin Millikan, Bobby Cornett, Logan Lawrence, Kyle Morgan, Josh Lacy , Willie Gawlik, and so many other administrators, and friends who have moved on, to all the coaches I have worked with and certainly the players who have put up with me for this long; I don't have the words to express my gratitude to you. I will humbly say thank you for allowing me to be a small part of your life. I would also say thank you to the great people from Texas Wesleyan University, from alumni, staff, and faculty, friends all others with whom we now all share a common bond forged in success, character, hard work and rich experiences. When the 2006 team won the National Championship that was not only a victory for that group of Rams, but it was a championship for every generation of Texas Wesleyan Rams who can share, take pride in and own a piece of something we all have strived toward for a long time. It has been such an honor to uphold the tradition that all of you have played a part of creating and have played such an important role in maintaining and that we are now charged with in upholding. I take that responsibility very seriously and look forward to working with another group of Texas Wesleyan University Rams in 2007-2008!!! 

THE VETERANS SET THE TONE

With the graduation of the nucleus of our team last may Coach Shingleton and I spent a very busy and exciting summer. We have 12 (yes twelve!!) new student athletes who all are eager to make their own mark in a program steeped with tradition and success. Dane Dmitrovic, 6'10 sophomore from Slovenia is the

only returning starter and is an exceptionally versatile and talented player. Dane has a great feel for the game and has a deft shooting touch. He is healthy this season after suffering through a freshman campaign plagued with illness. Fred Eshon, another strong and dependable guard is back as well as a senior. Eshon started some games last season and was a high energy guy who played some very big minutes throughout the year. Fred is an excellent shooter and defender and will be a very big part of our success this season. Jeremy Fox is also returning and is one of 4 young men in our program's history to get his start from the Junior Varsity. Jeremy also has the distinction of being the only current Ram who was on the 2006 National Championship team.




BIG GUYS IN THE PAINT

The big guys in our program include physical and bruising Austin Andy Latienen, a 6'7 245 Junior could see considerable time in the pivot along with Mansfield sophomore Hector Mukwei, a 6'7 rangy and athletic shot blocker , and Dalane Finley a 6'4 punishing inside-outside threat whose senior season could prove to be an exciting one. Clint Chasteen, who originally played at NCAA DI Texas State brings an outside shooting threat along with experience and like Finley and numerous other Rams can play several positions.



NEW GUARDS ON THE HORIZON

Waxahachie native Kenneth Gober played at Trinity Valley College the past two seasons and brings a long range threat in addition to a brilliant competitive nature to the Rams. Aaron Scott, 6'5 Senior comes from Houma Louisiana and Nicholls State. Scott is an athletic slashing scorer who will be entertaining to watch. We have four freshmen including 6'6 much heralded scorer Ryan Barnes from Australia , 6'4 fellow Aussie shooter Mary Vahala. The local products include Class 5A all district selection , Evan Randall, an outstanding point guard from Mansfield Summit and also Class 5 A all district selection Cody Waldrop, 6'1 shooting guard from Mansfield HS, Washington native Joe Kennard and Matt Franz, Saginaw Boswell guard who earned his way up from the Junior Varsity. 

RAM ALUMS CHARGING ON IN LIFE

Tommy Johnson (2004) , professional basketball player, Belgium
 Ben Hunt (2007) professional basketball player, Australia
 Matt Johnson (2001) Portfolio Manager, Bank of America, Dallas TX
 Todd Chappell, (2002) Regional Sales/Marketing, Basic Components, Phoenix, AZ
 Robert Allen (2002) FEMA, Fort Worth, TX
 Jason Neal (2001) Director Academic Technology
 Nino Etienne (2007) Teacher/Coach, Killeen ISD
 Erley Jackson (2001) Fleet Manager, Enterprise Cars
 Brad Schilder (2006) Exercise Physiologist Baylor FW
 Albert Tally (2005) Assistant Coach Panola JC
 Aaron Whaley (2003) Assistant Dean, Texas Wesleyan
 James Whitfield (2005) Teacher, Birdville ISD
 Matt Shabay (2003) Teacher/Coach Keller ISD
 Brian Voskuil (2004) Management Circuit City
 Will Parker (2002) Teacher/Coach FW ISD
 Scott Reasoner (2006) Personal Trainer, Fort Worth
 Evan Patterson (2007) Business, Arlington TX
 Chad Crenshaw (2002) Absolute Flooring, Fort Worth

Each issue we will profile Ram alumni and what They are doing. Please let us know about you. We would love to include you on an upcoming issue. Email me at twaldrop@txwes.edu or just give us a call.

07-08 HOME BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov 8	Parker College	7:30 PM
Nov 10	Oklahoma Wesleyan	7:30 PM
Dec 14	Clifford Classic vs. Belhaven	7:30 PM
Dec 15	Clifford Classic vs. LSU S	7:30 PM
Dec 17	Wesley College	7:30 PM
Jan 2	SW Kansas	2:00 PM
Jan 14	Paul Quinn	7:30 PM
Jan 16	Langston University	7:30 PM
Jan 26	Wiley	7:30 PM
Jan 28	Jarvis Christian	7:30 PM
Feb 2	Bacone	7:30 PM
Feb 9	Texas College	7:30 PM
Feb 16	Southwest Assembly	7:30 PM
Feb 25	Huston Tillotson University	7:30 PM

Key Road Dates:

Nov 6 at Oklahoma Christian, Edmond OK 8:00PM
 Nov 29 at UTA, Arlington TX 7:00PM
 Dec 4 at Xavier University in New Orleans, 7:30 PM
 Dec 29 at Oklahoma Baptist, Shawnee OK; 4:00PM

We would love to see you at some games this year !!!!

Notables on the 0-08 Rams

- 3 international players (Slovenia, 2 from Australia)
- Players from Texas, Louisiana, and Washington
- Texas players hail from Waxahachie, Coppell, Mansfield, Arlington, Fort Worth, Saginaw and Austin
- Only 3 seniors on this years squad
- 8 players 6'5 or over !!
- One player speaks 6 different languages
- 4 freshmen; the most in my 8 years !!
- Three players with NCAA Division I backgrounds
- At least one Academic All American the last 3 yrs.
- Majors include: Business, Kinesiology, Education and Management.

The Rams were ranked as high as # 4 in the country last season (06-07)



Texas Wesleyan University is proud to announce the first annual



Clifford Christmas Classic



Featuring some of the top NAIA programs in America

LSU Shreveport, Belhaven University from Jackson MS, Southwest Assembly and your own Texas Wesleyan University Rams

December 14 and 15: Games at 5:30 and 7:30 (Rams play at 7:30 both nights)

Free Admission to any former Texas Wesleyan University Alumni and a guest.

A personal note from the coaching staff,

We are hosting again this season what has become one of the top tournaments in the country for NAIA schools. In recent years we have had teams from California, Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana. This year we are adding Mississippi to the list as highly regarded Belhaven University led by for University of Alabama Assistant Tom Kelsey enters the field with traditional powerhouse LSU Shreveport led by Coach Chad McDowell do battle with your Rams and also fellow Red River member Southwest Assembly of God.

We have decided to name our event in honor of long time Texas Wesleyan supporters Patsy and Marty Clifford who have given so much time energy and passion to our institution over the years. This is a tournament we intend on hosting annually as a tribute to their contributions to our great institution. If you would like to donate to this very worthy event please contact me at 817-531-4224 or email me at twaldrop@txwes.edu We will also have some information on the basketball portion of the website. We want to make this a first class event and would sincerely appreciate your support. Just to give you an idea of our expenses officials alone will run us over \$2100 for the two day event. (\$150 per official at 3 officials per game for 4 games plus travel. We do have other sponsorship opportunities available including endowed lockers, whereby the name of the honoree and his number and years of participation goes on an engraved plaque and stays in the beautifully handcrafted wooden locker for all time. This is a great way to pay tribute to someone who has made a difference in our lives. In addition we have home game, road game and overnight game sponsorships available as well. Please give us a call and let's talk about ways to make a big difference. We need some fresh ideas from some proud alums and supporters of Ram athletics and TWU!! I would encourage you to get involved, come to some games, meet some of the young men and see the great product we put on the floor, but much more importantly the people we are putting out here at Texas Wesleyan. You will take pride in what you see!!!

*Thanks so much for your time and consideration
Coach T*

Sponsorship opportunities

- Home game sponsorship: \$ 900
- 25 tickets to your home game
- Website sponsorship recognition with your photo
- Framed team photograph
- Framed photograph with you and coaching staff
- Honorary Coach recognition
- PA Announcements
- Game program insert (if interested)
- Autographed jersey or basketball
- 2 seats on the bench during the game
- 2 'all access' locker room passes for pre-game and half time, and post game meetings with team.
- Recognition in game program with this being designated as game sponsored by your organization
- Access to Ram Club Room before and during the game to host meetings or hospitality social for your group.
- NAIA National Championship Poster, sponsored by the NAIA
- 2 Polo TWU Basketball Shirts
- Special VIP Parking for sponsors

Road game sponsorship \$ 1600 (trips to Oklahoma City, San Antonio, Tyler, Marshall, Waxahachie, Shawnee OK, Arlington, Austin.

- Website sponsorship recognition
- Autographed jersey or basketball
- Honorary Coach(s) recognition
- 2 seats on the bench during the game (room permitting)
- 2 'all access' locker room passes for pre-game and half time, and post game meetings with team.
- Recognition in game program with this being designated as game sponsored by your organization
- Access to Ram Club Room before and during the game to host meetings or hospitality social for your group.
- NAIA National Championship Poster, sponsored by the NAIA
- All meals with team on trip; pre-game meal with coaches
- Charter Bus transportation and membership in official 'travel party' for the Rams
- 2 Polo TWU Basketball Shirts
- 2 TWU official basketball travel tops
- Framed team photograph
- Framed photograph with you and coaching staff

Overnight game sponsorship: \$ 2700 to Muskogee OK, Kansas,

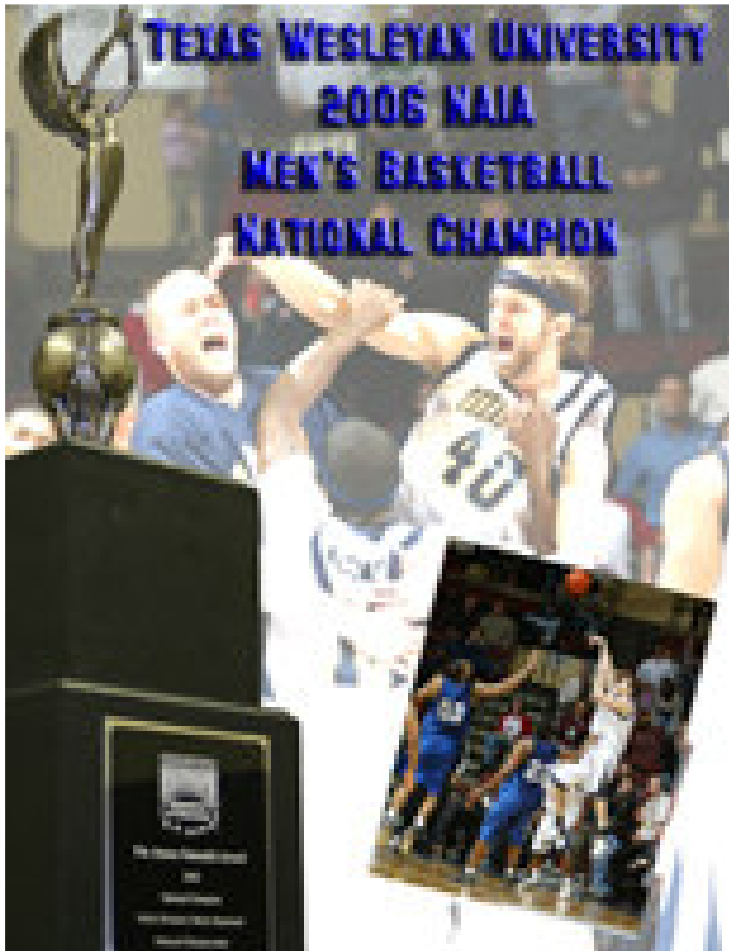
- All road game sponsorship items
- Accommodations with Rams in team hotel
- All meals with Rams

New Orleans Sponsorship \$ 5000 (vs Xavier University) Dec 3-4, return AM Dec 5.

- All overnight sponsorship items
- 2 round trip tickets to New Orleans with the Rams

Call us at 817-531-4224 to reserve your sponsorships now !!! you will enjoy it tremendously and be helping some great young men work toward their goals and dreams along the way !!

Texas Wesleyan Rams



Home of the 2006 NAIA National Champions

'A legacy of success, a lifetime of memories'

Sign up for the email newsletter by sending an email to me at twaldrop@txwes.edu; In the subject line put 'subscribe' or call us at 817-531-4224. You can also join by going online at www.ramsports.net and following the corresponding link. We want to hear from you !!!

